



Superior Court of California  
County of Mendocino

# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 8, 2011

## **JUDGE RONALD BROWN RETIRES FROM THE MENDOCINO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT**

Judge Ronald Brown retired January 31, 2011, after more than fourteen years on the bench. Judge Brown was elected to the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino in 1997, and was assigned to the Ukiah Courthouse where he initially presided over family law and juvenile cases. Judge Brown has been elected to two additional six-year terms, presiding over criminal matters and assisting his colleagues with civil and traffic cases.

Brown, a graduate of Sonoma State University, received his law degree from Empire School of Law and began his legal career in 1977 as a Research Attorney with the Sonoma County District Attorney's Office. He served as Mendocino County Deputy District Attorney from 1979-1989, and Public Defender of Mendocino County from 1989-1997. For many years, Judge Brown has presided over the Mendocino County High School Mock Trial Competitions, offering encouragement and sage advice to high school "attorneys."

Judge Brown will be remembered as an outstanding judge, a great Deputy District Attorney, and a dedicated Public Defender for Mendocino County. Judge Brown was known for his skillful handling of many of the most serious and difficult criminal cases filed in Mendocino County during his tenure on the bench.

Judge Brown also cared greatly about the community. Brown was a board member of the Mendocino County Law Library, past president of Mendocino/Lake Alternative Sentencing Program and taught criminal justice classes part-time at Mendocino Community College. For many years, he spear-headed the court's participation in the Annual Chili Cook-Off to benefit the Boys and Girls Club, and Bowl for Kids Sake to benefit Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Judge Brown is also a long-time supporter FFA and 4-H Clubs. The Judges and Court staff will miss him deeply.

Long time friend and colleague, Judge Jonathan Lehan, said "Ron Brown is one of the best men I have ever known. I am privileged to have worked with him for many years and am proud that he is my friend. Judge Brown has a wonderful, vibrant, and loving family, and Annett and I look forward to traveling with him and Carolyn and enjoying our family friendship for many years to come".

Judge Brown has been married to his wife Carolyn for 34 years and has four adult daughters; Tiffani, Michelle, Megan, and Kelsey.